22nd March 1960]

Salaries of teachers

* 115 Q.—SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to disburse by money order the salaries of teachers in elementary schools under private managements which do not levy fees; and

(b) if so, when it will come into force?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) & (b) Orders have been issued to the effect that salaries of teachers in schools, which have opted to become non-fee levying from the current year (1959-60), should be paid direct by money order from 1st June 1959.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, is this a permanent measure or only an experimental scheme?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It was an experimental scheme. I am sure that the hon. Member is aware that this matter came up for consideration before the all-parties committee, that is, the Advisory Committee on Education. That committee has unanimously recommended that this should be given up, and the old method of paying through the managements adopted. The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, would the Government examine the adoption of the procedure followed in the Kanyakumari district of crediting the school-fees in the case of aided schools also to Government and paying the salaries of teachers direct to the teachers as in the case of Government schools?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is with reference to high schools. This is with reference to the elementary schools. The difficulty here is that they are located in nooks and corners of the State, and we are finding it difficult to reach the teachers in time. There is a considerable amount of delay in paying these teachers now.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What made the Government originally to decide that payment should be made by money order? Has any representation been made by the teachers that the system of payment by money order may be continued and not scrapped?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Just to find out what the difficulties involved in this system were. We have just now learnt the difficulties. That is why the committe had to consider the whole matter and after so considering, they have given a particular advice. Even now, representations are being made not that it should be paid through money order, but that it should be paid direct by the Government. 3-20 p.m.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Cannot the Government think of asking the Headmasters of elementary schools to take up the work and also empowering the local Deputy Inspector of Schools to authorise the Headmaster to draw the money from the treasury?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not think it would be possible to ask the Deputy Inspectors to manage this affair. Asking the Headmasters to be responsible in the matter is also one of the matters, which are being looked into by the Government.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : In view of the fact that in the case of secondary schools, the system is working very well in another part of the State, will the Government consider the desirability of introducing that system in the entire State and extending the same to elementary schools also?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : There has been no complaint as far as secondary schools are concerned. I do not see any necessity to adopt some other system even though it may be working well in other parts. The real problem is with reference to elementary schools and as far as that problem is concerned, the Committee consisting of all the political parties has tendered certain advice. Still, we are looking into the matter as to whether any alternative method could be followed.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government give us an assurance that till payment is made by the Government, the pay will be sent by money order at Government cost?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Now, the money is sent at the cost of the teachers and so, there is no question of the Government incurring any expenditure. I am sorry I cannot give the assurance which the hon. Member is asking now.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, the present rate of money order commission which is 15 nP. for Rs. 10 is too high. At this rate, the teachers will have to forego about 1½ per cent of their salary as money order commission. (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is not 1½ per cent. It is only ·15 per cent.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Yes, I agree. Even so, they have to forego that much. (Laughter.)

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : ஐயா, தமிழ் நாடு ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்கள் கூட்டணியிலிருந்து, ஏதாவது தகவல், தீர்மானம் அனுப்பியிருக்கிறார்களா, இது மாதிரித் தீர்மானம்: அந்தச் செலவை நாங்களே ஏற்றுக்கொள்கிறோம், கூடுமானால் மணியார்டர் கமிஷனை அரசாங்கமே ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்; இல்லையானால், எங்கள் பொறுப்பில் கொடுக்கத் தயாராய் இருக்கிறோம் என்று?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : தமிழ் நாடு ஆசிரியர்கள் கூட்டணிமகாநாடு கடலூரில் நடந்தது; அப்பொழுது தீர்மானம் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டதாக அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதே சமயத்தில், 500, 600 கார்டுகள், ஏகமனதாகத் தீர்மானிக்கப்படவில்லை என்ற புகார்களும் செய்து வந்திருக்கின்றன.

22nd March 1960]

SRI S. NATARAJAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that there has been delay in the payment of salaries by remittance through money order consequent on the money order forms not being available in the Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : There are ever so many reasons. Particularly, at the issuing side, it might be possible that the department might have sufficient number of money order forms.

Even if there were not sufficient number of forms, they could get them from the neighbouring district headquarters. But the post-offices in the various places are finding it difficult to clear all the money orders which are sent on a particular day with reference to the schools located in that area. Therefore, there was considerable delay in the payment of salaries to the teachers and that is why the matter had to be reviewed by the committee once again.

Fee concession

* 116 *Q*.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to extend the benefit of fee concession to the children of the members of the staff of Oriental Colleges?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : In view of the fact that the Lecturers in these colleges get lesser salary than even the high school teachers and the Principal of such colleges gets lesser salary than the Headmaster of a high school, will the Government kindly consider the question of extending this concession to these Lecturers and Principals?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Still, a college is a college and a school is a school. When I take up the question of this college, naturally I will have to consider all the colleges and not only the Oriental Colleges.

SRI S. NATARAJAN : Is there any proposal to extend this concession to the members of the staff of these institutions?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Not that I know of.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As the members of the staff of the Oriental Colleges draw lesser salaries and as they also come under the orbit of the Government grant, will the Government consider the desirability of extending this concession to them?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is not a question of their coming under the orbit of Government grant or any such thing. It is a question whether members of the staff in these colleges also are to get this benefit. We have now restricted it to schools. It is not as if only these members of the staff are low-paid categories. There are so many other low-paid categories in all walks of life. Therefore, we have to consider this question with reference to the categories in the schools or colleges.